

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY China

SUBJECT Blockhouses, Hong Kong-Canton Area

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1. As of 25 June 1951 there were blockhouses every 1.5 kilometers along the railway from Canton to Lock'ang. Each blockhouse could accommodate one platoon of troops and a machine gun position. At important points there were anti-aircraft positions. Air defense units were stationed at major railroad stations. In the mountainous area at Yinchanao there were anti-aircraft gun and anti-aircraft machine gun positions.
2. As of early October blockhouses had been constructed by engineering units of the 3 Field Army at intervals of about 300 to 500 yards along the Paoan highway between Shench'uan and Nant'ou, Paoan. These blockhouses were manned by troops of an artillery regiment of the 4th Army under the command of YUAN Chen-wei (袁振威). According to a coolie employed in their construction, the blockhouses held 25 or 30 men, had roofs of timber cut from the nearby hills, and were covered by earth in which grass had been planted for camouflage. Anti-aircraft gun emplacements had been built into the blockhouses on the higher hills, and some guns had been installed. Blockhouses at strategic points were equipped with two heavy machine guns and one mountain gun.

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